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[PATENT]

BEFORE THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial Number: 10/743,628  
Filed: 12/22/2003  
Art Unit: 2856  
Today's Date: April 27, 2005

Examiner: Noland  
Atty Dkt: MAYED03/05  
Due Date: 04/28/2005

Response to First Office Action

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the First Office Action in the above case dated 1/28/2005, please consider the amendment, comment and argument below.

**AMENDMENT**

**TO THE CLAIMS:**  
(please see the following page)